

Kansas State Solid Waste Management Plan

2000



Kansas Department of Health and Environment
Bureau of Waste Management

Acknowledgments

State law (K.S.A. 65-3406) directs the secretary of the Department of Health and Environment to develop a statewide solid waste management plan. The first state plan was prepared and adopted in 1996. That plan specified that a comprehensive review would take place in 2000 and the plan would be updated as appropriate.

In the spring of 2000, the Bureau of Waste Management initiated procedures to update the plan. A task force of interested persons was formed and the department announced its intentions to hold a public meeting in Wichita on June 30, 2000. At that meeting, solid waste issues were reviewed and ideas to update the state plan were presented and discussed. Based upon feedback at the meeting and comments received from task force members, the bureau developed a draft plan. In mid-October, the draft plan was distributed for review and comments to everyone who attended the meeting or served on the task force. Overall feedback was very positive; however, several excellent constructive comments were received. In response to those comments, several revisions were made, primarily related to format and presentation, rather than content.

This updated state solid waste management plan provides important guidelines for the continuation of the solid waste program for the next five years. It is the department's intention to maintain the course which we have been on for the past seven or eight years. Major improvements have been made in solid waste management practices over this time period. Our facilities have been significantly improved and Kansans are recycling and composting much more waste than in the early 1990s. Unlike in many states, Kansas' laws and regulations give local government officials the flexibility to choose the waste reduction options which work best for them. With technical and financial assistance from the state, most communities have chosen to implement waste reduction programs. This plan will continue to allow local control with respect to the selection of waste management methods.

On behalf of the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, I want to offer our thanks to everyone who helped with the preparation of this plan. The cooperative spirit of all persons and organizations is a good example of an overall future goal of the plan, which is to promote the philosophy that "partnering can and does make a difference." Experience has shown us that the best results have been achieved when people work together.



Clyde D. Graeber - Secretary
Kansas Department of Health and Environment

Kansas

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